appeared in the 'Indan Express' dated the 13th July, 1991 under the caption "Police traders nexus on road encroachments" in Capital;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to inquire into such illegal encroachments etc. to ascertain whether the police and civic officials in connivance with the traders have actually encouraged encroachments on busy roads in the capital; and

(c) what further steps Government would take to remove such encroachment etc., in the Capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The contents of the report are being examined for appropriate action.

Prices of Dhara Oil

1812. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of 'Dhara' vegetable and ground nut oils have been increased thrice in the past;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) what were the prime objectives allowing N.D.D.B. to manufacture these products;

(d) whether some discussions have been held with the NDDB about pricing policy and supplies of edible oils; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps to be taken to bring down prices of these products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The details of Dhara price revision in the period July 1990 to June 1991 are given in the Statement. [*See* Appendix 159, Annexure No. 53]. Increases in interest rates and processing and marketing costs have necessitated these price revisions.

(c) Dhara operations are a part of NDDB's market intervention operations in edible oil and oilseeds. The retail marketing strategy of Dhara aims at rapidly moving the product through a disciplined marketing system to reach wider consumer markets. NDDB is marketing the Dhara brand of edible oils to link producers directly with consumers.

(d) and (e) The pricing and supply strategy for Dhara is a part of the overall strategy for market intervention operations approved by Government which has designated NDDB as the market intervention agency. In comparison with other brands of edible oil, Dhara is very competitively priced.

Flood relief to Orissa

1813. SHRI PRAVANT KUMAR SAMANTARAY:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the then Prime Minister after visiting ASKA flood site of Orissa on the 6th November, decided to provide fifty crores aid to flood victims for rehabilitation; and

(b) if so, whether the said amount has been provided to the State Government of Orissa, if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The then Prime Minister had stated in his speech at Aska that Rs. 35 crores had already been given to the State and on the previous day, had been arranged Rs. 50 crores for Orissa Government.